Lives

of

Twelve Good Men

MARTIN JOSEPH ROUTH
HUGH JAMES ROSE
CHARLES MARRIOTT
EDWARD HAWKINS
SAMUEL WILBERFORCE
RICHARD LYNCH COTTON

RICHARD GRESWELL
HENRY OCTAVIUS COXE
HENRY LONGUEVILLE MANSEL
WILLIAM JACOBSON
CHARLES PAGE EDEN
CHARLES LONGUET HIGGINS

By JOHN WILLIAM BURGON, B.D.

LATE DEAN OF CHICHESTER
SOMETIME FELLOW OF ORIEL COLLEGE

NEW EDITION, WITH PORTRAITS

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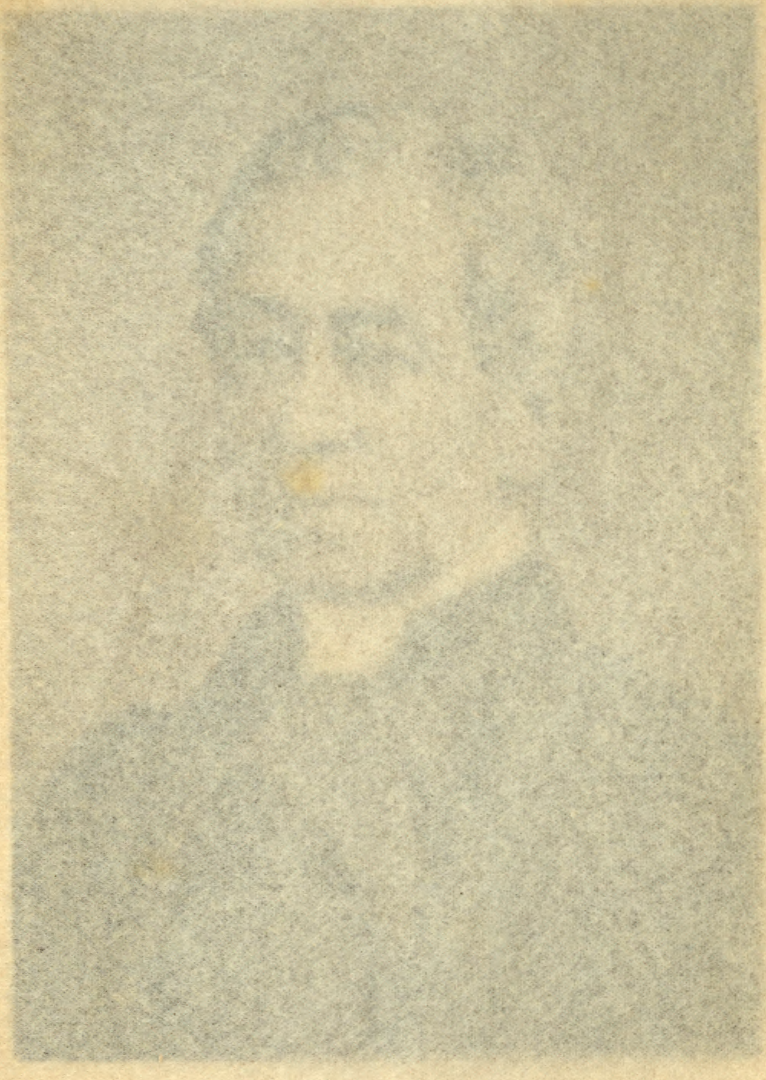


(1). MARTIN JOSEPH ROUTH:

THE CLASSICAL SCHOLAR.

[A.D. 1755—1854.]

He was 'reserved to report to a forgetful generation what was the Theology of their fathers.'[1]

FOUR-AND-THIRTY years have run their course since the grave closed over a venerable member of the University of Oxford, who, more than any other person within academic memory, formed a connecting link between the Present and the Past. In a place of such perpetual flux as Oxford, the stationary figures attract unusual attention. When a man has been seen to go in and out the same college-portal for thirty or forty years he gets reckoned as much a part of the place as the dome of the Radcliffe, or the spire of St. Mary's. But here was one who had presided over a famous college long enough to admit 183 fellows, 234 demies, 162 choristers. The interval which his single memory bridged over seemed fabulous. He was personally familiar with names which to every one else seemed to belong to history. William Penn's grandson had been his intimate friend. A contemporary of Addison (Dr. Theophilus Leigh, Master of Balliol from 1726 to 1785,) had pointed out to him the situation of Addison's rooms, and narrated his personal recollections of the author of the 'Spectator' while a resident fellow of Magdalen. Dr. Routh had seen Dr. Johnson, in his brown wig, scrambling up the steps of University College. A lady told him that her mother remembered seeing King Charles II walking with his dogs round "the Parks"[2] at Oxford (when the Parliament was held there during the plague in London); and, at the approach of the Heads of Houses, who tried to fall in with him, "dodging" by the cross path to the other side. (His Majesty's dogs, by the way, were highly offensive to the Heads.) It seemed no exaggeration when, in the dedication of his Lectures on '*The Prophetical Office of the Church*,' published in 1837, Mr. Newman described 'Martin Joseph Routh, D.D., President of Magdalen College,' as one who had been 'reserved to report to a forgetful generation what

[1] Newman's dedication of his '*Lectures on the Prophetical Office of the Church*,' (1837), —"inscribed, with a respectful sense of his eminent services to the Church, and with the prayer that what he witnesses to others may be his own support and protection in the day of account."

Many inhabitants of Oxford there must shortly be who will require to be informed that, forty years ago, '*the Parks*' was the familiar designation of the locality at present covered by the 'New Museum.' A broad raised gravel walk, enclosing a ploughed field,—(a parallelogram it was, of considerable size),—afforded a capital refuge for pedestrians who had no other object but to enjoy for a brief space a dry healthy walk in the immediate vicinity of the Colleges.

Hudson Collyer Smith.

Hugh Lewis Pinx

(II.) HUGH JAMES ROSE:

THE RESTORER OF THE OLD PATHS.

[A. D. 1795—1838.]

'Who, when hearts were slacking, bade us stir up *the gift that was in us*, and helped us to do it as we ought.'

MANKIND [illegible] grateful of their chiefest benefactors. [illegible] besides being a boast and a praise, was reckoned a branch of strength by Churchmen of a generation which has already well nigh passed away. Pronounced now in the hearing of those who have been in the Ministry ten, fifteen, twenty years, it is discovered to be unknown to them. And yet this was the man who, sixty years ago, at a time of universal gloom, panic, and despondency, [illegible]; awoke the sleeping, [illegible] the Church's army. It will be my endeavour [illegible] to repair the omission of half a generation (he died in 1838); the *rather*, because [illegible] was a life which deserves to [illegible]. Moreover, it should have been

[illegible] originally delivered the Rev. John [illegible] of Worcester College, [illegible] but now scarcely remembered name, [illegible] writing Mr. Rose's life had been entrusted, [illegible] The discovery was speedily made that [illegible] to write the History of the Church of England during [illegible] but eventful period; and such an ample Memoir was [illegible] hands of the Biographer. Many words on this [illegible] necessary. The events were all too recent in which [illegible] prominent part, for he was "taken away in the [illegible] inconveniently reversed conditions the selfsame [illegible] But besides that I enjoy access to the same [illegible] continuously with those who revered Mr. [illegible] whose discourse was perpetually of *him*. [illegible] to relate, at least in outline, the story of his [illegible] have I been troubled by the conviction that it would [illegible] never to make the attempt; and an opportunity [illegible] unexpectedly arrived.

A singular contrast will the present biography [illegible] to present to

(III). CHARLES MARRIOTT:

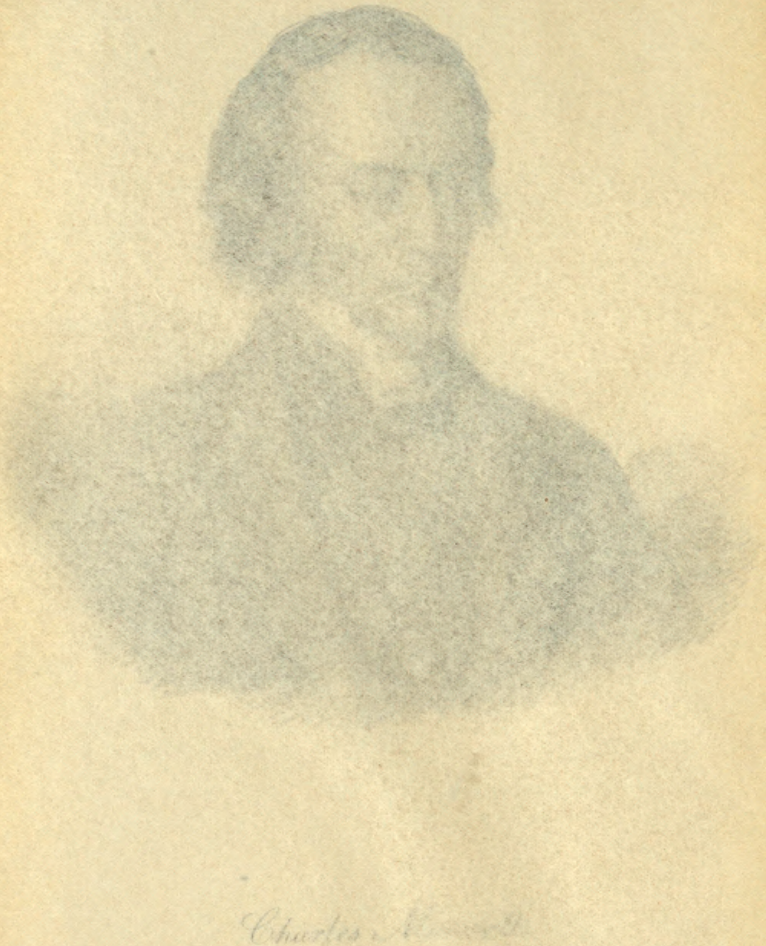
THE MAN OF SAINTLY LIFE.

[A. D. 1811—1858.]

WHAT is here proposed is not so much to write a Life, as to pourtray a Character. Greatly do I regret that I did not long ago fulfil the intention,—(long ago conceived and never consciously abandoned),—of committing to paper some recollections of the holy man whose name stands written above the present page. At the end of thirty years, the more delicate traits of such an one as he are apt to grow blurred and indistinct. His *obiter dicta*, in particular, can no longer be recalled. It is only the general result which remains so indelibly impressed on the memory. Since however an opportunity for repairing this long-standing omission at last presents itself, it shall not be let slip. It would be a reproach if no written memorial were to survive of a character so unique, so beautiful, so saint-like, as that of Charles Marriott. And certainly the thing must be done *now*, or it will never be done at all.

Utterly at a loss should I have been concerning the first chapters of his history, but that I have been allowed access to a short biographical sketch which his brother John drew up in 1859; and have been entrusted with certain "Memoranda concerning Charles Marriott and his Parents," —the work of an accomplished first cousin; of which documents I shall, without further acknowledgment, freely avail myself.

CHARLES MARRIOTT, third son of the Reverend John Marriott [1780-1825],—Rector of Church Lawford in Warwickshire, and Curate of Broad Clyst, Devon,—was born at Church Lawford on the 24th of August, 1811.

Certain interesting features of character are perceived to have descended to him from an earlier generation. His grandfather's house is described as "a happy home .... full of bright minds and warm hearts, —a little needing regulation perhaps, and severally somewhat overapt to do what seemed right in their own eyes; but, in every essential respect, thoroughly at one. All made the service of GOD their end: all were attached members of the Church of England; and,—(what in those days was essential to domestic concord),—all were of the same way of thinking on political questions. Loyal-minded Tories were they all, and staunch Anti-Gallicans. A passion for reading prevailed throughout the household." My informant adds,—"When our Father,[1] then at Christ Church,

[1] George Marriott, esq., barrister, father of the Ven. Fitzherbert Marriott, (Archdeacon of Hobart Town,)—and Sophia, (whose words I am in the main quoting,)—Charles Marriott's first cousins.